

## Message Text

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62  
ORIGIN NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 DPW-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 SCA-01 SAM-01 /104 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ARN:DAKORN/D/PW-FSIEVERTS:JFC

APPROVED BY P - MR. SISCO  
NEA - MR. ATHERTON  
S/S - WHLUERS

----- 020295

R 092042Z APR 74  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO USMISSION GENEVA  
INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
USINT DAMASCUS

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E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: SREF, SY, IS  
SUBJECT: SYRIAN POWS IN ISRAEL

1. DURING CALL ON DEPARTMENT OFFICER ON APRIL 8, SYRIAN  
INTERESTS SECTION CHIEF KABBANI SAID HE HAD BEEN IN-  
FORMED BY DAMASCUS THAT SYRIAN PRISONERS IN ISRAEL BEING  
BADLY MISTREATED. KABBANI ALLEGED SYRIAN PRISONERS ARE  
BEING KEPT IN CROWDED CONDITIONS AND NOT ALLOWED EXERCISE  
OR READING MATERIALS; SAID IN SOME CASES WOUNDED HAVE  
BEEN TRANSFERRED PREMATURELY FROM HOSPITALS TO PRISONS.  
KABBANI SAID SYRIAN GOVERNMENT HAS LEARNED OF HUNGER  
STRIKE BY PRISONERS RECENTLY IN PROTEST OF THESE VIOLATIONS  
OF GENEVA CONVENTION. KABBANI SAID REPORTS OF THIS KIND  
CAN ONLY ACCENTUATE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN SYRIA AND ISRAEL  
AND MAKE IT MORE DIFFICULT TO REACH AGREEMENT.

2. DEPTOFF ASKED WHETHER SYRIA WAS ASKING USG TAKE SOME  
PARTICULAR ACTION IN THIS MATTER. KABBANI SAID HE WAS  
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BRINGING MATTER UP WITH USG IN ORDER THAT IT MIGHT DO WHAT

IT CAN TO ALLEVIATE CONDITIONS OF SYRIAN POWS IN ISRAEL.

3. MISSION REQUESTED MAKE INQUIRY WITH ICRC AS FOLLOWS:  
USG ASSUMES ICRC HAS GIVEN SYRIA AS WELL AS ISRAEL COPIES  
OF ITS REPORTS ON ITS VISITS TO SYRIAN POWS. USG, HOWEVER,  
WANTS ICRC TO KNOW ON STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL BASIS OF THIS  
SYRIAN APPROACH TO US AND WOULD WELCOME ICRC'S COMMENTS,  
WHICH WE WOULD OF COURSE BE PREPARED TREAT AS CONFIDENTIAL.

RUSH

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TREATY VIOLATION, HUMAN RIGHTS, PRISONERS WELFARE, POW CAMPS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 09 APR 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974STATE071653  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** FSIEVERTS:JFC  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740081-1052  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t19740454/aaaabxiz.tel  
**Line Count:** 70  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ORIGIN NEA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 17 JUN 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <17 JUN 2002 by rowelle0>; APPROVED <06 MAR 2003 by GolinoFR>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
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EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** SYRIAN POWS IN ISRAEL  
**TAGS:** SREF, SY, IS  
**To:** GENEVA  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005